

11/2/65 Yale Newman

During the early Spring I spoke to him at WTTG, telling him the history of the book to that point. Today I brought him up to date. In the Spring he had volunteered that a brother-in-law was President of Crown and he offered to phone him. Today he explained that he had only to find him abroad, hence I had heard nothing further. I told him I was wondering if, especially in view of the success of the Green Berets, I might do well to go back. I told him the decision was without having read the book, just a policy decision by the vice-president in charge of non-fiction. He said he would know better after he had read the book. I told him I'd mail a copy tonight but it wouldn't go out until tomorrow because of the single daily service. If he likes it he will phone his brother-in-law.

When I got the thermofaxed copy back from Wicker I phoned and asked if I might leave it on the way home and he said sure. I did.

He also finds it hard to believe all the publishers' fear. I gave him what explanation I could, admitting I found it incomprehensible. I said I believed the fear of the government is self-imposed, and that I do not believe the government has done anything to justify this. I told him of the alleged belief there will be no sale.

We did discuss a few aspects of the book, but I asked him to read them, saying I'd rather have the book carry its own weight. I told him all I hoped for from Crown was a policy decision: would they touch the subject? If they would, then the book would have to stand on its own. I'm to check with him when next I'm in D.C.

11/12/65 Spoke to him by phone. He has been busy but, without reading all of it, had read enough to find it "very interesting". He had phoned his brother-in-law

and gotten nowhere. Hemming and Hawing, he said, "They cannot see their way clear to publish your book at this time." At my request, he sent that copy, by messenger, to Miss Kock in Sen. Morse's office, where I was when I called him.